

Esther (Esa) Burson

405 Bass Hall | Department of Psychology | Smith College | Northampton, MA 01060 | eburson@smith.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Adolescent development, critical consciousness, inequality, intergroup attitudes, LGBTQ youth, measurement, multi-method research

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor July 2023 to present
Department of Psychology
Smith College

Postdoctoral Associate 2021-2023
Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research
Cornell University
Advisors: Anthony Burrow & Richard Kiely

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Psychology and Social Intervention 2021
New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
Department of Applied Psychology
Dissertation: Critical Consciousness and Intra-minority Solidarity: A Multi Methods Analysis
Advisor: Erin Godfrey

Bachelor of Arts (*Phi Beta Kappa*) in Psychology and Classics 2010
Swarthmore College
Thesis: Help Yourself: Psychological Factors Influencing Portion Decisions
Advisor: Andrew Ward

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, HONORS

Han Zhang and Jinlan Liu Foundation Dissertation Research Award, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2020

Chein-Lehmann Dissertation Proposal Award, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2020

Emerging Scholar Student Travel Award, Society for Research on Adolescence 2020
(cancelled due to Covid 19 pandemic)

Mitchell Leaska Dissertation Research Award, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2019

Outstanding Research Contribution Prize, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2019

Graduate Student Travel Award, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues 2018

Felix M. Warburg Memorial Award, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2018

Chein-Lehmann Professional Development Award, Psychology and Social Intervention, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2018

Phillip J. Zlatchin Memorial Award, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of 2017

Culture, Education, and Human Development

Steinhardt Student Senators Council Conference Funding Award, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2016

Steinhardt Competitive Professional Development Reimbursement Award, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2015

Summer Professional Development Award, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2015

Doctoral Student Travel Grant, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2015

Steinhardt Graduate Fellowship, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development 2014-2018

Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Swarthmore College Chapter 2010

RESEARCH GRANTS

Steinhardt Faculty Challenge Grant, Research Development Award, 2019 (\$15,000). *Critical consciousness among LGBTQ youth: Extending theory and research to other dimensions of marginalization*. **Co-Investigator: Burson**, Principal Investigator: Godfrey.

NYU University Research Challenge Fund, 2019 (\$15,000). *Exploring the role of critical consciousness in intergroup relations*. **Co-Investigator: Burson**, Principal Investigator: Godfrey.

Doctoral Student Research Grant, 2019 (\$1486.55). *An experimental analysis of critical consciousness and solidarity*. **Investigator: Burson**.

Doctoral Student Research Grant, 2018 (\$1480.29). *Critical consciousness and intraminority solidarity: a qualitative inquiry*. **Investigator: Burson**.

PUBLICATIONS*

(* denotes student mentee at time of manuscript submission)

PUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B., *Ibrahim, D.A., & Brown, R.M (2023). Structural and historical attributions in critical reflection. In L.J. Rapa and & E.B. Godfrey (Eds.), *Critical consciousness: Expanding theory and measurement*. Cambridge University Press.

*Renley, B. M., **Burson, E.**, Simon, K.A., Caba, A.E., Watson, R.J. (2022). Youth-specific LGBTQ+ state-level policies: Implications for pronoun, name, and bathroom/locker room use among gender minority youth. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 51(4), 780-791.

*Caba, A.E., Rathus, T., **Burson, E.**, Chan, P.A., Eaton, L.A., & Watson, R.J. (2022). Who is using PrEP on-demand? Factors associated with on-demand versus daily PrEP use among Black and Latino emerging adults. *AIDS and Behavior*, 1-11.

Ibrahim, D.A., Godfrey, E.B., Cappella, E., & **Burson, E.** (2021). The art of social justice: Examining the link between arts participation and critical consciousness development among youth. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 51(3), 409-427.

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B. (2020). Intraminority solidarity: The role of critical consciousness. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 50(6), 1362-1377.

Poteat, V. P., Calzo, J. P., Yoshikawa, H., Lipkin, A., Ceccolini, C. J., Rosenbach, S. B., ... & **Burson, E.** (2019). Greater engagement in gender-sexuality alliances (GSAs) and GSA characteristics predict youth empowerment and reduced mental health concerns. *Child Development, 91*(5), 1509-1528.

Burson, E., Godfrey, E. B., & Singh, S. (2019). "This is probably the reason why she resorted to that kind of action": A qualitative analysis of juvenile justice workers attributions for girls' offending. *Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community, 47*(2), 154-170.

Godfrey, E. B., **Burson, E.**, Yanisch, T.M., Hughes, D., & Way, N. (2019). A bitter pill to swallow? Patterns of critical consciousness and socioemotional and academic well-being in early adolescence. *Developmental Psychology, 55*(3), 525-537.

Sichel, C.E., **Burson, E.**, Javdani, S., & Godfrey, E.B. (2019). Theorizing safety informed settings: Supporting staff at youth residential facilities. *American Journal of Community Psychology, 63*(3-4), 405-417.

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B (2018). The State of the Union: Contemporary interminority attitudes in the United States. *Journal of Basic and Applied Social Psychology, 40*(6), 396-413.

Godfrey, E. B. & **Burson, E.** (2018). Interrogating the intersections: How intersectional perspectives can inform developmental research on critical consciousness. *New Directions in Child and Adolescent Development, 2018*(161), 17-38.

Godfrey, E. B., Santos, C. E., & **Burson, E.** (2017). For better or for worse? System-justifying beliefs predict marginalized youth's developmental trajectories across early adolescence. *Child Development, 90*(1), 180-195.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW OR IN PREPARATION

Burson, E., *Renley, B. M, Layland, E.K., Rathus, T.*, Caba, A.E., Simon, K.A., Eaton, L.A., & Watson, R.J. Youth-focused LGBTQ equity laws predict adolescent depression and self-esteem. Under review at *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*.

Kornienko, O., **Burson, E.**, Young, D, Garner, P.W., & Godfrey, E.B. Critical Consciousness and Social Network Selection Processes. Manuscript in preparation.

Burson, E., Godfrey, E.B, & Ibrahim, D.A. A Qualitative Exploration of Critical Consciousness and Solidarity among racial/ethnic and sexual/gender minority adolescent populations. Manuscript in preparation.

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B., Ibrahim, D.A., Poteat, V.P., Calzo, J.P., & Yoshikawa, H. Extending critical consciousness to sexual and gender minority populations. Manuscript in preparation.

Burson, E., †Proett, J., & Kiely, R. Shifts in critical reflection, community engagement, and intergroup competency during a national service year: A qualitative exploration. Manuscript in preparation.

*Rathus, T., El-Krab, R., & **Burson, E.** The role of critical consciousness in HIV prevention: A systemic review. Manuscript in preparation.

RESEARCH REPORTS

City Year/Cornell University Alumni Bridging Study, 2023. Prepared by **E. Burson**, under the supervision of R. Kiely, with support from E. Arnone,* E. Carpenter,* E. Estes-Downs,* and S.D.L. Sautu.*

A Two-Generation Educational Intervention: Report on 2018-2019 2G Programming and Outcomes at Educational Alliance, 2020. Prepared by E.B. Godfrey and **E. Burson**.

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

National Service and Alumni Outcomes. City Year CEO and Senior Leadership Team. Boston, MA (talk held over zoom). August 2023.

Research Practice Partnership: National Service and Alumni Outcomes. Einhorn Collaborative. New York, NY (talk held over zoom). May 2023.

Critical Consciousness and Youth Serving Organizations. Department of Human Development and Family Sciences, College of Education and Human Development, University of Delaware. Newark, DE. December 2022.

Intraminority Solidarity and Perceptions of Equity. Department of Psychology, Loyola University Chicago. Chicago, IL. Nov 2022.

Intraminority Attitudes in the United States. NYU Steinhardt Intergroup Relations Undergraduate Course (Professor: Rezarta Bilali). New York University. New York, NY. November 2018.

Reducing Inequalities in Settings of Care: A Systems Approach to Juvenile Justice Outcomes. Columbia Social and Moral Cognition Lab (PI: Larisa Heiphetz). Columbia University. New York, NY. January 2018.

CHAired CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B. (May 2022). *Critical Consciousness and Solidarity among Racial/Ethnic Minority and Sexual and Gender Minority Young Adults*. In **E. Burson (Chair)**, Ingroup/Outgroup: Disrupting Prejudice and Developing Solidarity among Marginalized Adolescents. Paper presentation at the Society for Research on Child Development Special Topic Meeting: Constructing the Other, Rio Grande, PR.

March 2022. (Re)defining Critical Consciousness: Current Directions in Measurement. **Symposium Chair/Moderator**, Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, New Orleans, LA.

Burson, E. & Godfrey, E.B. (July 2019). *Critical Consciousness as a Predictor of Solidarity Among Marginalized Groups: A Theoretical Model*. In **E. Burson (Chair)**, "In Solidarity:" Antecedents and Measurement of Intergroup Political Solidarity. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Lisbon, Portugal.

Burson, E., Godfrey, E.B., Yanisch, T., Hughes, D., & Way, N. (June 2018). *Operationalizing Critical Consciousness: A Latent Class Analysis*. In **E. Burson (Chair)**, Critical Consciousness as a Bridge to Justice: Measurement and Intervention. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Pittsburgh, PA.

Burson, E., Godfrey, E.B., & Singh, S. (April 2018). *Juvenile Justice Staff Attitudes and Attributions toward Female Juvenile Offending*. In **E. Burson (Chair)**, A Closer Look at Gender and Legal System Involvement in Adolescence. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, TALKS, AND POSTERS

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B. (July 2021). *Historical Thinking in Intraminority Solidarity: Qualitative Inquiry*. In K. Neufeld (Chair), Historical Thinking and Intergroup Relations, **Discussant E. Burson**. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, virtual meeting.

Burson, E., Godfrey, E.B., Poteat, V.P., Calzo, J.P., Yoshikawa, H. (March 2020, cancelled due to COVID19 pandemic). *Queering Critical Consciousness: Measurement and Implications of CC among Sexual and Gender Minority Youth*. In S. Suzuki (Chair), Critical Consciousness and Positive Youth Development. Scheduled paper presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence.

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B. (March 2020, cancelled due to COVID19 pandemic). *What Makes Consciousness Critical? An Exploration of Factors Comprising Critical Consciousness*. In C. Lloyd (Chair), Examining the Complexities of Supporting Critical Consciousness Development in Youth. Scheduled paper presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence.

Bilali, R., Godfrey, E.B., & **Burson, E.** (June 2018). *A Perspective Taking Intervention Following the 2016 US Presidential Elections*. In K. Neufeld (Chair), Evidence-Based Strategies to Promote Positive Social Change. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Pittsburgh, PA.

June 2018. Bridges to Peace and Justice: Psychology at the United Nations. **Interactive Discussion participant**, Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Pittsburgh, PA.

April 2018. Thinking Critically and Consciously: New Extensions of Old Wisdom. **Roundtable participant**, Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Minneapolis, MN.

Sichel, C.E., **Burson, E.**, Javdani, S., & Godfrey, E.B. (July 2017). *Setting-Level Characteristics of Residential Facilities for System-Involved Youth: Conceptualization and Measurement*. In S. Javdani (Organizer), Understanding and Reducing Inequality in Settings and Spaces: Implications for Youth and Community Wellbeing. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Community Research and Action, Ottawa, CA.

Godfrey, E. B., Santos, C. E., & **Burson, E.** (April 2017). *For better or for worse? System-justifying Beliefs Predict Marginalized Youth's Developmental Trajectories across Early Adolescence*. In M. Diemer (Chair), Fostering & Justifying Critical Consciousness in Schools & Youth Settings. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting the Society for Research on Child Development, Austin, TX.

Burson, E., & Godfrey, E.B. (June 2016). *The State of the Union: Contemporary Interminority Attitudes in the United States*. In Interminority Attitudes and Relations. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Minneapolis, MN.

Godfrey, E.B., Del Toro, J., **Burson, E.**, & Hughes, D.I. (2016). *System Justifying Beliefs Influence Youth's Academic Outcomes and Well-Being*. In Del Toro, J. (Chair), Examining Antecedents and Consequences of Adolescents' Perceptions of Social Structures. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Minneapolis, MN.

Burson, E., Rarick, J.R.D., & Godfrey, E.B. (July 2015). *Perceptions of Stigma among Minority Groups in South Africa*. Poster presentation at Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, San Diego, CA.

TEACHING

Critical Consciousness and Youth Development, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Fall 2022. Instructor of record.

Introduction to Human Development, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Fall 2021. Cofacilitator.

Seminar in Applied Psychology II: Theory, Research & Practice, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development, New York University, 2018-2021. Recitation Instructor.

Introduction to Developmental Psychology across the Lifespan, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Education, Culture, and Human Development, New York University, Fall 2020. Course Assistant.

Masters Statistics, Department of Psychology, Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University, 2017-2018. Course Assistant.

Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship, Fulbright Commission of Greece, Athens, Greece, 2013-2014.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Partner, City Year, Boston, 2021-2023.

Consulting Research Associate, Pls Lisa Eaton and Ryan Watson, Department of Human Development and Family Sciences, University of Connecticut, 2020-2022.

Data Consultant, The Educational Alliance, New York City, 2018-2020.

SPSSI UN/NGO Team Intern, United Nations and Non-Governmental Organization Team, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, 2017-2018.

Service Corps Member, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Tallinn, Estonia, 2010-2011.

 PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer, American Journal of Community Psychology (2018, 2021), British Journal of Social Psychology (2020); Developmental Psychology (2019), Group Processes and Intergroup Relations (2021), Infant and Child Development (2021, 2022), Journal of Community Psychology (2022), Journal of Youth and Adolescence (2019), Journal for Research on Adolescence (2018), Journal of Basic and Applied Social Psychology (2018, 2020); Social Sciences (2023), Social and Personality Bulletin (2023).

Professional Memberships: Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Society for Research on Adolescence, International Society of Political Psychology, Society for Research on Child Development, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi Research Society.

Applied Psychology Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2018-2021), Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York University

Doctoral Affairs Committee (Student Representative; 2017-2019), Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York University

Program Social Committee (2018-2019), Psychology and Social Intervention, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York University

Resources and Recruitment Committee (2016-2018), Psychology and Social Intervention, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York University

Colloquium Planning Committee (2015-2016), Psychology and Social Intervention, Department of Applied Psychology, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York University

 TRAININGS

Synthesizing Qualitative Data, Research Talk/UNC Odum Institute for Research in Social Science, 2022

Conducting Qualitative Interviews: Developing and Maintaining an Active and Engaged Posture Online, Research Talk/UNC Odum Institute for Research in Social Science, 2022

Cultivating Community in Contested Spaces: Considering, Reaffirming, and Reimagining Best Practices in Community-Based Global Learning, Community-Based Global Learning Institute, Ithaca, NY, 2022.

Building Mentorship Skills for Academic Careers, Future Faculty at Cornell University in partnership with the Center for Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning Network, Ithaca, NY, 2022.

Postdoc Leadership Program, Office of Postdoctoral Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 2021-2022.

Inequality by the Numbers Workshop at the Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY, 2018.

Atlantic Causal Inference Conference Workshop, New York University, New York, NY, 2016.

International Society of Political Psychology Summer Academy, San Diego, CA, 2015.

 QUANTITATIVE COURSE TRAINING

Intermediate Quantitative Methods: General Linear Modeling; Advanced Modeling I: Topics in Multivariate Analysis; Regression; Multi-Level Modeling: Nested Data; Topics in Advanced Quantitative Methods: Causal Inference; Confirmatory Factor Analysis & Structural Equation Modeling; Methods for the Analysis of Change; Missing Data

 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Technical Proficiencies: Amazon Mechanical Turk, Dedoose, Microsoft Office Suite, Mplus, Prolific.ac, SPSS, Qualtrics
 Language Proficiencies: English (native language); French (reading, writing, and conversational proficiency)

 DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Dr. Erin Godfrey (Chair)

Associate Professor of Applied Psychology
Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
New York University
New York, NY
212.998.5396
erin.godfrey@nyu.edu

Dr. Maureen Craig

Assistant Professor of Psychology
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
New York University
New York, NY
212.998.8386
maureen.craig@nyu.edu

Dr. Hirokazu Yoshikawa

Courtney Sale Ross University Professor of Globalization and Education
Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
New York University
New York, NY
212.998.5107
hy2042@nyu.edu